[(b) respectively converting said n-l second signals into n-1 third signals of a second transmission rate less than said first transmission rate; and] down-converting distributed signals into lower-rate signals;

[(c) transmitting said n-l third signals of said second transmission rate through radio transmission paths between n-l radio base stations and a terminal station connected to at least one terminal unit]

providing said lower-rate signals separately to a plurality of base stations; and

transmitting said lower-rate signals from said base stations to the terminal.

2. (AMENDED) [The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said second transmission rate is 1/(n-1) of said first transmission rate] A communication method for a radio LAN system comprising the steps of:

time-divisionally distributing an input signal of a bit rate R to be sent to a terminal into N signals where N is greater than or equal to 2;

down-converting said distributed signals into lower-rate signals of a bit rate equal to R/N;

providing said lower-rate signals separately to a plurality of base stations; and

transmitting said lower-rate signals from said base stations to the terminal.

3. (AMENDED) [The method as claimed in claim 1] A communication method for a radio LAN system providing communication at a first transmission rate, said method comprising:

(a) time-divisionally distributing a first signal of said first transmission rate into n-l second signals (n = 3, 4, ...);

(b) respectively converting said n-l second signals into n-1 third signals of a second transmission rate less than said first transmission rate; and

(c) transmitting said n-l third signals of said second transmission rate through radio transmission paths between n-l radio base stations and a terminal station connected to at least one

terminal unit, wherein[:] said radio LAN system further comprises at least one redundant radio base station n; [and said method further comprises the steps of:]

(d) transmitting a fourth signal through a radio transmission path between said terminal station and said at least one redundant radio base station n, data of said fourth signal having a given relationship with data in signals transmitted between at least k (k5(n-1)) radio base stations of said n-l radio base stations and said terminal station; and

(e) compensating, when at least one transmission path between said at least k radio base stations and said terminal station is interrupted, data of the signal to be transmitted through an interrupted transmission path based on said data of said fourth signal transmitted between said at least one redundant radio base station n and said terminal station.

4. (AMENDED) [The method as claimed in claim 3] A communication method for a radio LAN system providing communication at a first transmission rate, said method comprising:

(a) time-divisionally distributing a first signal of said first transmission rate into n-l second signals (n = 3, 4, ...);

(b) respectively converting said n-l second signals into n-1 third signals of a second transmission rate less than said first transmission rate; and

(c) transmitting said n-l third signals of said second transmission rate through radio transmission paths between n-l radio base stations and a terminal station connected to at least one terminal unit, wherein said radio LAN system further comprises at least one redundant radio base station n;

(d) transmitting a fourth signal through a radio transmission path between said terminal station and said at least one redundant radio base station n, data of said fourth signal having a given relationship with data in signals transmitted between at least k (k5(n-1)) radio base stations of said n-l radio base stations and said terminal station; and

(e) compensating, when at least one transmission path between said at least k radio base stations and said terminal station is interrupted, data of the signal to be transmitted through an

interrupted transmission path based on said data of said fourth signal transmitted between said at least one redundant radio base station n and said terminal station, wherein said given relationship in said step (d) is that said data of said fourth signal transmitted between said at least one redundant radio base station n and said terminal station is a summation of data of the signals transmitted between said at least k radio base stations and said terminal station for each given time slot.

5. (AMENDED) [The method as claimed in claim 1] A communication method for a radio LAN system providing communication at a first transmission rate, said method comprising:

(a) time-divisionally distributing a first signal of said first transmission rate into n-l second signals (n = 3, 4, ...);

(b) respectively converting said n-l second signals into n-1 third signals of a second transmission rate less than said first transmission rate; and

(c) transmitting said n-l third signals of said second transmission rate through radio transmission paths between n-l radio base stations and a terminal station connected to at least one terminal unit, wherein[:] said radio LAN system further comprises at least one redundant radio base station n; [and said method further comprises the steps of:]

([f]d) monitoring interruption of transmission paths between said n-I radio base stations and said terminal station; and

([g]e) compensating, when one of said transmission paths is interrupted, data of an interrupted transmission path by transmitting said data of the interrupted transmission path between said at least one redundant radio base station n and said terminal station.

6. (AMENDED) A communication [apparatus] system for a radio LAN system [providing communication at a first transmission rate, said apparatus] comprising:

rate-conversion-and-distribution means for time-divisionally distributing [a first signal of said first transmission rate into n-l second signals (n = 3, 4, ...) and respectively

converting said n-1 second signals into n-1 third signals of a second transmission rate less than said first transmission rate] an input signal to be sent to a terminal into at least two signals and for down-converting said distributed signals into lower-rate signals;[and]

[n-1 radio base stations transmitting said n-1 third signals of said second transmission rate to a terminal station connected to at least one terminal unit through radio transmission paths] transmitting means for providing said lower-rate signals separately to a plurality of base stations; and

the plurality of base stations receiving the lower-rate signals and transmitting said lower-rate signals to the terminal.

Cl Cont.

7. (AMENDED) [The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said second transmission rate is 1/(n-1) of said first transmission rate] A communication system for a radio LAN system comprising:

rate-conversion-and distribution means for time-divisionally distributing an input signal of a bit rate R to be sent to a terminal into N signals where N is greater than or equal to 2 and down-converting said distributed signals into lower-rate signals of a bit rate equal to R/N:

transmitting means for providing said lower-rate signals separately to a plurality of base stations; and

the plurality of base stations transmitting said lower-rate signals from said base stations to the terminal.

8. (AMENDED) [The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:] A communication apparatus for a radio LAN system providing communication at a first transmission rate, said apparatus comprising:

rate-conversion-and-distribution means for time-divisionally distributing a first signal of said first transmission rate into n-1 second signals (n = 3, 4, ...) and respectively converting said

n-l second signals into n-l third signals of a second transmission rate less than said first transmission rate;

n-l radio base stations transmitting said n-1 third signals of said second transmission rate to a terminal station connected to at least one terminal unit through radio transmission paths;

at least one summation means for generating a fourth signal by summing data of at least k ($k \leq (n-1)$) signals of said n-l third signals of said second transmission rate every timeslots; and

at least one redundant radio base station n transmitting said fourth signal generated in said at least one summation means to said terminal station.

Cl Cont.

9. (AMENDED) [The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:] A communication apparatus for a radio LAN system providing communication at a first transmission rate, said apparatus comprising:

rate-conversion-and-distribution means for time-divisionally distributing a first signal of said first transmission rate into n-l second signals (n = 3, 4, ...) and respectively converting said n-l second signals into n-l third signals of a second transmission rate less than said first transmission rate;

n-l radio base stations transmitting said n-1 third signals of said second transmission rate to a terminal station connected to at least one terminal unit through radio transmission paths;

at least one redundant radio base station n transmitting a signal to said terminal station;

line monitoring means for monitoring interruption of transmission paths between said n-1 radio base stations and said terminal station; and

switching means, when at least one of said transmission paths is interrupted, for forwarding a signal to be transmitted through an interrupted transmission path to said at least one redundant radio base station n.

Please **ADD** claims 14-17 as follows: